

Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV) Reliability-Availability-Maintainability/ Rebuild to Standard (RAM/RS) Program

DESCRIPTION

The Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV) Reliability, Availability, Maintainability/Rebuild to Standard (RAM/RS) Program was approved by the Commandant in June 1997. This program focuses efforts on reducing total ownership costs by identifying the top (10) fleet cost drivers. Specifically, a Bradley derivative V903 engine rated at 525 hp replaced the existing CUMMINS V903 400 hp engine. Also, the existing suspension was replaced with a Bradley derivative suspension. The suspension replacement requires that each hull's suspension area be cut, new metal welded on and new machining performed to permit "bolt on" application of the new suspension system. In each case there is greater than 90% commonality with the Army's fleet of more than 5000 Bradley vehicles. This enhances the USMC logistics capability, permits higher volume procurements of the sub-systems, provides "economies" of parts procurement and revitalizes a vendor base for supporting this aging platform. The rebuild to standard portion was specifically tailored to address fleet problems. The RAM/RS program will modify 680 of the 1322 AAV7A1 vehicles in the USMC inventory at the rate of 170 vehicles per year.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:	FY00	FY01
<i>Quantity:</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>170</i>

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The RAM/RS program will ensure the AAV remains a viable weapon system until the AAV is fielded in FY06 to FY12.

PROGRAM STATUS

Milestone III review was successfully in 1998. Production commenced in FY99. IOC was achieved in FY99 with FOC in FY03.

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

United Defense LP, is providing the Hull Modification, suspension kits and other related parts. Engines are provided by Cummins through an U.S. Army contract. Rebuild is accomplished by the Marine Corps Logistics Bases Maintenance Centers in Albany, GA and Barstow, CA.